



The Henry County Board of Education shall require that all schools and programs within the district comply with State Board of Education (SBOE) Rule 160-5-1-.35, Seclusion and Restraint for All Students.

DEFINITIONS

Chemical Restraint is defined as any medication that is used to control behavior or restrict the student's freedom of movement that is not a prescribed treatment for the student's medical or psychiatric condition.

Mechanical Restraint is defined as the use of any device or material attached to or adjacent to a student's body that is intended to restrict the normal freedom of movement and which cannot be easily removed by the student. The term "mechanical restraint" does not include and adaptive or protective device recommended by a physician or therapist when used as recommended by the physician or therapist to promote normative body positioning and physical functioning, and/or to prevent self-injurious behavior. The term "mechanical restraint" also does not include seatbelts or other safety equipment when used to secure students during transportation.

Physical Restraint is defined as direct physical contact from an adult that prevents or significantly restricts a student's movement. The term "physical restraint" does not include prone restraint, mechanical restraint, or chemical restraint. Additionally, physical restraint does not include providing limited physical contact and/or redirection to promote student safety, providing physical guidance or prompting when teaching a skill, redirecting attention, providing guidance to a location, or providing comfort.

Prone Restraint is defined as a specific type of restraint in which a student is intentionally placed face down on the floor or another surface, and physical pressure is applied to the student's body to keep the student in the prone position.

Seclusion is defined as a procedure that isolates and confines the student in a separate area until he or she is no longer an immediate danger to himself/herself or others. The seclusion occurs in a specifically constructed or designated room or space that is physically isolated from common areas and from which the student is physically

prevented from leaving. Seclusion may also be referred to as monitored seclusion, seclusion timeout, or isolated timeout. Seclusion does not include situations in which a staff member trained in the use of de-escalation techniques or restraint is physically present in the same unlocked room as the student, time-out as defined in this rule, in-school suspension, detention, or a student-requested break in a different location in the room or in a separate room. Use of seclusion is prohibited in Georgia public schools and educational programs.

Time Out is defined as a behavior intervention in which the student is temporarily removed from the learning activity but in which the student is not confined.

PROHIBITED FORMS OF RESTRAINT

The Henry County Board of Education prohibits the use of chemical restraints, mechanical restraints, or prone restraint and seclusion. The Henry County Board of Education also prohibits the use of physical restraints except in those situations in which a student is in immediate danger to himself/herself or others and the student is not responsive to less intensive behavioral interventions including verbal directives or other de-escalation techniques.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Henry County Board of Education prohibits physical restraints that are used:

- as a form of discipline or punishment;
- when a student cannot be safely restrained; and,
- when the use of physical restraint would be contraindicated due to the student's psychiatric, medical or physical conditions as described in the student's educational records.

LIMITED USE OF RESTRAINT

This policy is not intended to prevent the use of physical restraint in circumstances where a student exhibits behaviors that place the student or others in imminent danger and the student is not responsive to verbal directives or less intensive de-escalation techniques. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit District employees from taking appropriate action to diffuse a student fight or altercation.

Additionally, nothing in this policy shall interfere with the use of time out or any other classroom management technique or approach

(including but not limited to a student's removal from the classroom) that is otherwise permitted by law and Henry County Board of Education policy, unless such technique has been specifically addressed in this policy.

When using physical restraint to protect students who are a danger to themselves or others and when the student is not responsive to less intensive de-escalation techniques, the following procedures are required:

1. Physical restraint should be conducted by District employees who are trained in the restraint procedures, unless the student is in imminent danger or other students or staff are in imminent danger.
2. District employees should carefully observe the student throughout the restraint to monitor the student's physical safety and to determine when the student is no longer a danger to himself/herself and others.
3. The use of restraint should be terminated when the student is no longer an immediate danger to himself/herself or others or when the student exhibits signs of severe distress or injury.

DOCUMENTING USE OF RESTRAINT

A written incident report shall be prepared to document all incidents when physical restraint is used. All incident reports shall include:

- Date of incident;
- Student name;
- Location of incident;
- Precipitating behavior;
- Observation of student's behavior and physical status during restraint;
- Injuries, if any, to the student, other students, or employees;
- Employee(s) observing the incident;
- Employee(s) participating in restraint; and
- Employee(s) signature.

Completed incident reports shall be submitted to the principal or designee as soon as practicable following the use of restraint and such reports shall be reviewed as appropriate. Written parental notification

that restraint was used on their child shall be provided within a reasonable time not to exceed one (1) school day from the use of restraint.

TRAINING ON USE OF PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

The District shall offer training on the District's policies and procedures regarding the limited use of restraint. The training will address the use of physical restraint and will address a full continuum of positive behavioral intervention strategies as well as prevention and de-escalation techniques.

Additionally, the District shall:

1. Provide a periodic review of the use of restraint
2. Monitor employee adherence to this policy.
3. Maintain a list of participants attending District training
4. Address any situations in which this policy is not being followed.
5. Annually review this policy.

The Board of Education recognizes that in determining when and how to implement this policy and any procedures related to it, educators will have to exercise their professional judgment and discretion. Therefore, the policy is not to be construed as imposing ministerial duties on individual employees. Further, it is not intended to interfere with the duties or authority of law enforcement or emergency medical personnel.

SECLUSION

While the Henry County Board of Education prohibits the use of seclusion, this policy prohibiting seclusion does not prevent:

1. A student from being placed in time-out.
2. A student from requesting an alternate location to get his or her behavior under control as long as an adult is present.
3. A student being moved from a classroom to another unlocked location where a trained staff member can implement de-escalation techniques.
4. A student from serving an in-school suspension or a detention.
5. A student from being removed from a classroom due to disruptive

behavior.

Henry County Schools

Date Adopted: 10/11/2010

Last Revised: 10/10/2011

NOTE: *The State of Georgia has moved the Georgia Code. This new environment no longer allows us to link directly to the Georgia Code. For example enter 20-02-0211 in the search window and the Georgia Code will appear.*

Georgia Code

Description

Rule 160-5-1-.35

Seclusion and Restraint for All Students

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

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